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MINUTES OF THE GEOGRAPHIC RESEARCH AREA STAFF MEETING, 19 OCTOBER 1960

25X1A9a

PRESENT: [REDACTED]

1. Recruitment

ERA has asked whether we have any requirements to place for their personnel who will soon be going out to universities on recruitment trips. It was decided that we would place no requirements, but just ask that they refer to us anyone they might come across who has a good geographic background, as they have done in the past. [REDACTED] 25X1A9a suggested, however, that some thought should be given to travel for the Division Chiefs to several universities to make or renew our contacts with them.

2. Consultants

The pros and cons of having the GRA program reviewed by a group of consultants was discussed. One of the main advantages of this kind of review would seem to be the fresh point of view these consultants could apply in studying our program.

3. Furniture Requirements for New Building

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[REDACTED] asked the Division Chiefs to give their special attention to planning for their division's requirements for furniture and equipment in the new building, and do as much pre-planning as possible.

4. Annexes to Trip Reports

The Annexes to the IGU trip reports have been very well received in DD/P. Distribution of these annexes is being decided and handled by SA/RR; the classification is being handled on an item-by-item basis. Names of CIA personnel stationed overseas are not to be given in trip reports or annexes.

5. GM on the Congo

25X1A9a [REDACTED] reported that the GM on the Congo had been highly complimented by OCI [REDACTED].

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6. Procurement of Soviet Bloc Mapping

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25X1A9a [REDACTED] reported that he has been spending considerable time with [REDACTED] trying to see what more can be done to aid the procurement of Sino-Soviet Bloc maps. A great deal of operational backstopping material has been prepared by GL/S, and yet there is very little to show for it. The collection personnel have this requirement as one of several; what is required is the assignment of personnel to the collection of Sino-Soviet Bloc topographic maps on a full-time basis and with direct D/GL control.

7. Geodesy in the NIS

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[REDACTED] brought up for discussion the question of whether or not the subject of Geodesy should be covered in the NIS now that the geodesy portion has been cut out of the outline for Chapter IX. Certain technical aspects of geodesy are covered in the Scientific Section (Chapter VII). The question remains whether geodetic intelligence should be covered elsewhere in the NIS as a legitimate part of basic intelligence.